

## **Safeguarding Children and Adults Declaration**

Safeguarding of children and adults is a high priority for NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and there is strong commitment to ensuring that structures and governance arrangements for safeguarding are robust. The protection of vulnerable children and adults at risk from abuse and neglect is fundamental to delivering health and wellbeing and core to delivering the quality agenda. NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group also ensures that organisations commissioned to provide services have appropriate safeguarding systems, including clear accessible policy and procedure, safer recruitment, training and governance systems. The principle philosophy is that safeguarding is everybody's business and all staff will respond and act to raise safeguarding awareness and address any emerging issues.

### **Minimum safeguarding standards/ arrangements are:**

- That the organisation meets statutory requirements in relation to the Disclosure and Barring Scheme (formerly Criminal Records Bureau checks);
- That child and adult Safeguarding policies and systems are up to date and robust, including a process for following up children who miss outpatient appointments and a system for flagging children and adults for whom there are safeguarding concerns;
- That all eligible staff have undertaken and are up to date with safeguarding training at the appropriate level;
- That designated and named professionals are clear about their role and have sufficient time and support to undertake it;
- That a member of the Governing Body has lead responsibility for safeguarding and that the Governing Body reviews safeguarding across the organisation at least once a year and has robust audit programmes to be assured that safeguarding systems and processes are working;
- That the CCG is assured that there are robust and appropriate performance monitoring systems in place with all providers, including the independent sector, in relation to safeguarding;
- That CCG Commissioners should scrutinise the declarations of all providers from whom they commission services; and ensure these services are in line with the Care Act 2014, Mental Capacity Act 2005, Section 11 of the Children Act and Safeguarding Vulnerable People in the NHS - Accountability and Assurance Framework (July 2015)
- That the CCG/ NHSE should ensure that GP practices and staff have robust systems and practices in place to ensure fulfilment of the child and adult at risk safeguarding role.
- The CCG is committed to partnership working and is a statutory member of the Sefton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and Sefton Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB).

NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group is able to report full compliance with the recommendations detailed above. In support of the above the CCG continues to update and review a number of strategic Policies and Guidance which includes:

- Safeguarding Strategy

- Looked After Children Strategy
- Safeguarding Children and Adult Policy
- Management of Allegations Policy
- Safeguarding Training Strategy and Training Needs Analysis
- Mental Capacity Act Implementation Guidance

**References:**

[Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children \(March 2015\).](#)

Care and Support Statutory Guidance: Issued under the Care Act (2014).

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/366104/43380\\_23902777\\_Care\\_Act\\_Book.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/366104/43380_23902777_Care_Act_Book.pdf)

[Safeguarding Vulnerable People in the NHS – Accountability and Assurance Framework 2015](#)

DH/DfE (2015) Promoting the Health and Welfare of Looked After Children

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/412486/health\\_guidance\\_consultation\\_response.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/412486/health_guidance_consultation_response.pdf)

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